

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 02100 212010Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
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-----074752 220311Z /66
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5010
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 2100

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, CI
SUBJECT: SECOND ARGENTINE-CHILEAN BILATERAL
ON BEAGLE ENDS INCONCLUSIVELY

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1426

1. THE SECOND ROUND OF BILATERAL TALKS ON THE BEAGLE DISPUTE ENDED INCONCLUSIVELY IN BUENOS AIRES MARCH 16. A NON-COMMITTAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS RELEASED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS ON MARCH 17 THAT TALKS WOULD CONTINUE AT AN UNSPECIFIED LATER DATE IN SANTIAGO. THE LOCAL PRESS SPECULATED THE NEXT ROUND WOULD TAKE PLACE BETWEEN MARCH 27 AND 29. THE LACK OF POSITIVE INFORMATION ON THE TALKS AND FAILURE TO SET A FIRM DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUND LEFT A DOWNBEAT IMPRESSION HERE OF THESE LATEST TALKS TO ESTABLISH THE CONDITIONS FOR HARMONY IN THE SOUTHERN REGIONS.

2. MEANWHILE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO REJECT THE BEAGLE CHANNEL RULING. FORMER ARGENTINE VICE PRESIDENT ADMIRAL ISAAC ROJAS, WHO HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAUNCHED AN INDEFATIGABLE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE RULING AND ARGENTINE LOSS OF SOVEREIGNTY IN THE AREA, OPENED HIS FOURTEENTH CYCLE OF CONFERENCES ON THE SUBJECT MARCH 16 AND BEGAN DISTRIBUTING A RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOK EXPOUNDING HIS VIEWS. A RALLY, ORGANIZED BY THE "MOVEMENT TO REAFFIRM ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY OVER PICTON, LENNOX AND NUEVA AND OTHER ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC" FOR MARCH 15 IN A DOWNTOWN

STADIUM, WAS HOWEVER POSTPONED TO MARCH 30. NO OFFICIAL REASON WAS GIVEN FOR THE POSTPONEMENT, ALTHOUGH THE RALLY WOULD CLEARLY NOT BE IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S STATED OBJECTIVE OF RESTORING HARMONY.

3. THE ARBITRATION COURT'S STATEMENT DECLARING THE ARGENTINE REJECTION OF THE RULING AS "JURIDICALLY WITHOUT EFFECT" WAS REPORTED HERE AS A PRESS RELEASE FROM THE CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. THE BRITISH EMBASSY HERE SAID THE STATEMENT WAS NOT MADE BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AS ARBITRATOR IN THE BEAGLE DISPUTE, BUT BY THE COURT. HE ADDED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD ASKED THE PARTIES TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE DECISION DIRECTLY TO THE COURT AND REPEATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO INTERFERE IN THE MATTER. CASTRO

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Message Attributes

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